

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/939,166	RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER Certificate MAR 14 2006 MAR 16 2006
	Filing Date	August 24, 2001	
	First Named Inventor	Thomas A. Boynton	
	Art Unit	3764	
	Examiner Name	Denton D. Demille	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	14	Attorney Docket Number	VAC.715.US

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		of Correction
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD <input type="checkbox"/> Remarks	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Certificate of Correction Copy of Amendment dated February 14, 2005

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm Name	Kinetic Concepts, Inc.	
Signature	<i>Robert W. Mason</i>	
Printed name	Robert W. Mason	
Date	3/14/06	Reg. No. 42,848

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MAR 17 2006

PTO/SB/44 (04-06)

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Page 1 of 1

PATENT NO. : 7,004,915 *B2*
APPLICATION NO.: 09/939,166
ISSUE DATE : February 28, 2006
INVENTOR(S) : Thomas A. Boynton et al.

It is certified that an error appears or errors appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 10, line 22 please replace "bowing" with "housing"

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER (Please do not use customer number below):

Kinetic Concepts, Inc. Legal Department
P.O. Box 659508
San Antonio, TX 78265

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FAX COVER SHEET

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Date: February 14, 2005 **No. of Pages:** 12
TO: **COMPANY:** USPTO
FAX: 703-872-9306
FROM: Robert W. Mason **DEPARTMENT:** Legal
FAX: 210 255 6969 **PHONE:** (210) 255-6271
RE: Patent Application No.: 09/939,166
Filing Date: 24 August 2001
First Named Inventor: Boynton, Thomas A., et al
Art Unit: 3764
Confirmation No.: 4114
Examiner: DEMILLE, Danton D.
Our File No.: VAC.715.US

Message: Dear Sir or Madame:

Enclosed for filing is the following:
Transmittal Form
Reply to December 13, 2004 Final Office Action to Provoke Advisory Action

Respectfully submitted,

Robert W. Mason
Reg. No.: 42,848

IntelliCard/Fax Cover Sheet/USPTO Fax Cover Sheet Central Fax Response to OA.doc

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PTO/SB/21 (2-04)
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TRANSMITTAL FORM <small>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</small>	Application Number	09/030,166	RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER MAR 4 2006
	Filing Date	24 August 2001	
	First Named Inventor	BOYNTON, Thomas A., et al	
	Art Unit	3784	
	Examiner Name	DEMILLE, Danton D.	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	VAC.713.US	

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	Kinetic Concepts, Inc.		
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PAGE 2/12 * RCVD AT 2/14/2005 5:37:20 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXXF-1/4 * DNIS:8729386 * CSID:210 255 6969 * DURATION (mm:ss):02:48

PAGE 4/14 * RCVD AT 3/14/2006 10:11:36 AM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXXF-3/14 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:210 255 6969 * DURATION (mm:ss):03:34

FEB 14 2005

Appl. No. 09/939,166

Amend. Date February 14, 2005

Response to Office Action dated December 13, 2004

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MAR 14 2006

Appl. No. : 09/939,166 Confirmation No.: 4114
Applicants : Boynton, et al.
Filed : 8/24/2001
Title (as amended) : Negative Pressure Assisted Tissue Treatment System
TC/A.U. : 3764
Examiner : Danton Demille
Docket No.: : VAC.715.US

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14 February 2005

Date

Chris E. Ridout

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
VIA FACSIMILE: (703) 872-9306

REPLY TO DECEMBER 13, 2004 FINAL OFFICE ACTION
TO PROVOKE ADVISORY ACTION

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

App. No. 09/939,166
Amend. Date February 14, 2006
Response to Office Action dated December 13, 2004

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

IN THE TITLE:

Please delete the TITLE, and replace it with Negative Pressure Assisted Tissue Treatment System.

Appl. No. 09/339,166
Filed Date February 14, 2003
Response to Office Action dated December 13, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented): A system for stimulating the healing of tissue, comprising:
a porous pad;
an airtight dressing;
a distal end of a conduit connected to the dressing;
a canister removably connected to a proximal end of the conduit;
an electric pump for applying negative pressure to a wound site;
a hydrophobic filter positioned between said canister and said electric pump; and
an odor vapor filter positioned between said hydrophobic filter and said electric pump.
2. (previously presented): The system of claim 1 wherein said hydrophobic filter and said odor vapor filter are incorporated as an integral part of said canister.
3. (previously presented): The system of claim 1 further comprising an access port for sampling wound fluids, said access port being connected to said conduit and having a resealable membrane operable to maintain a seal after being punctured.
4. (previously presented): The system of claim 1 further comprising a clamp for securing said system to a pole.
5. (previously presented): The system of claim 1, further comprising a portable housing for said electric pump, said portable housing having a clamp for securing said system to a pole.
6. (canceled).

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Amend. Date February 14, 2003
Response to Office Action dated December 13, 2004

7 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein said porous pad is comprised of an open cell polymer.

8. (previously presented): The system of claim 1, further comprising means for deactivating a backlight to a display after a predetermined interval.

9. (previously presented): The system of claim 1, further comprising a motor control that determines a tentative motor drive power for reaching a target pressure and which withholds electric power from an electric motor unless the tentative motor drive power is sufficient to activate said motor.

10. (original): The system of claim 1 wherein said conduit is comprised of longitudinal partitions that form a drainage conduit and a pressure detection conduit.

11. (original): The system of claim 10 wherein a plurality of said detection conduits are arranged about said drainage conduit.

12. (previously presented): The system of claim 10, further comprising a resealable access port for sampling fluids, said access port comprising an appendage of said drainage conduit.

13. (currently amended): A system for stimulating the healing of tissue, comprising: a porous pad; an airtight dressing; a distal end of a drainage tube connected to said dressing; a canister removably connected to a proximal end of the drainage tube; a self-contained pumping mechanism for applying negative pressure to the wound site; the pumping mechanism including an electric motor; and a power management motor control that determines a tentative motor drive power for reaching a target pressure and which withholds electric power from the electric motor unless the tentative motor drive power is sufficient to activate said electric motor; and an access port for sampling wound fluids, said access port being connected to said drainage tube and having a resealable membrane operable to maintain a seal after being punctured.

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Amend. Date February 14, 2005
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14. (previously presented): The system of claim 13, further comprising means for deactivating a backlight to a display after a predetermined interval.

15. (canceled).

16. (canceled).

17. (previously presented): The system of claim 13 further comprising a clamp for securing said system to a pole.

18. (previously presented): The system of claim 13 wherein said porous pad is comprised of a polyvinyl alcohol foam.

19. (currently amended): A system for stimulating the healing of tissue, comprising:
a porous pad;
an air pump;
an electric pump for applying negative pressure to a wound site;
a canister removably connected to said electric pump;
a housing for containing said canister and said electric pump;
a clamp for securing said housing to a pole; and
a power management motor control that determines a tentative drive power for reaching a target pressure and which withholds electric power from said electric pump unless the tentative drive power is sufficient to activate said electric pump; and
a rescalable access port for sampling wound fluids, said access port being connected to said conduit and having a rescalable membrane operable to maintain a seal after being punctured.

20. (canceled).

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~~Amend. Date February 14, 2005~~
Response to Office Action dated December 13, 2004

21. (previously presented): The system of claim 19, further comprising a portable power unit for supplying power to said electric pump.

22. (canceled).

23. (previously presented): The system of claim 19, further comprising means for deactivating a backlight to a display on said housing after a predetermined interval.

24. (canceled).

25. (original): The system of claim 19 wherein said porous pad is comprised of a polyvinyl alcohol foam.

26. (previously presented): The system of claim 19 further comprising a conduit having a proximal end and a distal end, and wherein said proximal end is removably connected to said canister and said distal end is in fluid communication with the wound site.

27. (original): The system of claim 26 wherein said conduit is comprised of longitudinal partitions that form a drainage conduit and a pressure detection conduit.

28. (previously presented): The system of claim 27 wherein a plurality of said detection conduits are arranged about said drainage conduit.

29. (canceled).

30 (currently amended): The system of claim 29 19 wherein said resealable access port comprises an appendage of said conduit.

31-40. (canceled)

Appl. No. 08/939,166

Audit: Due February 14, 2005

Response to Office Action dated December 13, 2004

41. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein said electric pump is a variable frequency pump.

42. (New) The system of claim 41, further comprising a control system to determine an optimum drive frequency for driving the variable frequency pump in order to maximize pump flow.

43. (New) The system of claim 41, further comprising a pressure sensor for measuring pressure across said pump.

44. (New) The system of claim 42, further comprising a variable frequency drive circuit for driving said pump at said optimum drive frequency.

45. (New) The system of claim 13, further comprising a control system to determine an optimum drive frequency for driving the variable frequency pump in order to maximize pump flow.

46. (New) The system of claim 45, further comprising a variable frequency drive circuit for driving said pump at said optimum drive frequency.

47. (New) The system of claim 45, further comprising a pressure sensor for measuring pressure across said pump.

48. (New) The system of claim 46, further comprising a variable frequency drive circuit for driving said pump and said optimum drive frequency.

49. (New) The system of claim 19, wherein said electric pump is a variable frequency pump.

Appl. No. 09/939,166

~~Amended February 14, 2005~~

Response to Office Action dated December 13, 2004

50. (New) The system of claim 49, further comprising a control system to determine an optimum drive frequency for driving the variable frequency pump in order to maximize pump flow.

51. (New) The system of claim 50, further comprising a variable frequency drive circuit for driving said pump at said optimum drive frequency.

52. (New) The system of claim 49, further comprising further comprising a pressure sensor for measuring pressure across said pump.

Appl. No. 09/939,166
~~Amend. Date February 14, 2005~~
Response to Office Action dated December 13, 2004

REMARKS

The FINAL Office Action of December 13, 2004 contained the following objections and rejections:

1. Claim 1-5 and 7-12 were allowed;
2. Claims 16, 29 and 30 were objected to as depending on a rejected base claim, but would be deemed allowable if rewritten in independent claim format; and
3. Claims 13-14, 17-19, 21, 23, 25-28, 31-34, 36 and 38-40 were rejected.

The Title has been changed to better describe the invention. No new matter has been added.

Applicants have amended independent claims 13 and 19 to include the elements of the objected dependent claims 16 and 29, respectively. As such, all dependent claims are now in condition for allowance. Applicants have canceled claims 16, 29 and 31-40.

In addition, Applicants have added new claims 41-52, which depend on allowable base claims in view of present amendments and indicated by the Examiner. No new matter has been added. Support for these claims can be found at least in now canceled claims 38 and 39.

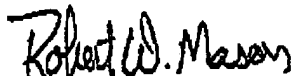
Applicants believe the present claims are now in condition for allowance, and action toward that end is respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 09/939,166
Filed: Feb. 14, 2005
Response to Office Action dated December 13, 2004

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. Believing that all matters raised in the Examiner's December 13, 2004 Office Action have been addressed, Applicants respectfully ask that the claims be allowed and passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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